

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting ~~and/or identifying a target~~ bacteria as a member of the genus *Staphylococcus* in a biological sample, comprising:
 - A. ~~extracting a nucleic acid material of the bacteria of the genus~~
Staphylococcus from the biological sample,
 - B. ~~amplifying at least one target sequence of~~ contacting the extracted nucleic acid material ~~of the bacteria of the genus~~ *Staphylococcus* ~~by using~~ with at least one amplification primer comprising ~~at least 10 nucleotide motifs of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 and/or at least one amplification primer comprising at least 10 nucleotide motifs of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2, in order to obtain amplicons of the target sequence, under amplification conditions, wherein if a target sequence is present in the nucleic acid material, then amplicons of the target sequence are obtained by amplification, and~~
 - C. ~~determining the presence of that the target bacteria is of the~~ genus *Staphylococcus* by detecting ~~said amplicons~~ the amplicons;

wherein the method detects the following members of the genus

Staphylococcus; *Staphylococcus arlettae*; *Staphylococcus aureus.aureus*; *Staphylococcus auricularis*; *Staphylococcus capitis.capitis*; *Staphylococcus capitis.ureolyticus*;

Staphylococcus caprae; *Staphylococcus carnosus carnosus*; *Staphylococcus carnosus utilis*;

Staphylococcus chromogenes; *Staphylococcus cohnii cohnii*; *Staphylococcus cohnii urealyticum*; *Staphylococcus condimenti*; *Staphylococcus delphini*; *Staphylococcus epidermidis*; *Staphylococcus equorum*; *Staphylococcus gallinarum*; *Staphylococcus haemolyticus*; *Staphylococcus hominis.hominis*; *Staphylococcus hominis.novobiiosepticus*;

Staphylococcus hyicus; Staphylococcus intermedius; Staphylococcus kloosii; Staphylococcus lentus; Staphylococcus lugdunensis; Staphylococcus pasteurii; Staphylococcus piscifermentans; Staphylococcus pulvereri; Staphylococcus saprophyticus. bovis; Staphylococcus saprophyticus.saprophyticus; Staphylococcus schleiferi.coagulans; Staphylococcus schleiferi.schleiferi; Staphylococcus sciuri; Staphylococcus simulans; Staphylococcus vitulinus; Staphylococcus warneri and Staphylococcus xylosus.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An amplification primer, comprising at least ~~15 nucleotide motifs of the~~ nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1.
4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An amplification primer, comprising at least ~~20 nucleotide motifs of the~~ nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.
5. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A pair of amplification primers, comprising:
the primer as defined in claim 3, and
a primer comprising ~~at least 20 nucleotide motifs of the~~ nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting ~~and/or identifying a target~~ bacteria as a member of the genus *Staphylococcus*, comprising contacting nucleic acid material in a biological sample with at least one primer as defined in claim 3 and/or at least one primer comprising at least 20 nucleotide motifs of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2 under amplification conditions, wherein if a target sequence is present in the nucleic acid material, then amplicons of the target sequence are obtained by amplification; and
determining that the target bacteria is of the genus *Staphylococcus* by detecting the amplicons;

wherein the method detects the following members of the genus

Staphylococcus; *Staphylococcus arlettae*; *Staphylococcus aureus.aureus*; *Staphylococcus auricularis*; *Staphylococcus capitis.capitis*; *Staphylococcus capitis.ureolyticus*;
Staphylococcus caprae; *Staphylococcus carnosus carnosus*; *Staphylococcus carnosus utilis*;
Staphylococcus chromogenes; *Staphylococcus cohnii cohnii*; *Staphylococcus cohnii urealyticum*;
Staphylococcus condimenti; *Staphylococcus delphini*; *Staphylococcus epidermidis*;
Staphylococcus equorum; *Staphylococcus gallinarum*; *Staphylococcus haemolyticus*;
Staphylococcus hominis.hominis; *Staphylococcus hominis.novobiosepticus*;
Staphylococcus hyicus; *Staphylococcus intermedius*; *Staphylococcus kloosii*; *Staphylococcus lentus*;
Staphylococcus lugdunensis; *Staphylococcus pasteurii*; *Staphylococcus piscifermentans*;
Staphylococcus pulvereri; *Staphylococcus saprophyticus.bovis*;
Staphylococcus saprophyticus.saprophyticus; *Staphylococcus schleiferi.coagulans*;
Staphylococcus schleiferi.schleiferi; *Staphylococcus sciuri*; *Staphylococcus simulans*;
Staphylococcus vitulinus; *Staphylococcus warneri* and *Staphylococcus xylosus*.

7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A kit for diagnosing bacteria of the genus *Staphylococcus*, comprising at least one primer as defined in claim 3 and/or at least one primer comprising ~~at least 20 nucleotide motifs of~~ the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.

8. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A hybridization probe, comprising ~~at least 15 nucleotide motifs of~~ the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1.

9. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A hybridization probe, comprising ~~at least 20 nucleotide motifs of~~ the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.

10. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A composition for detecting bacteria of the genus *Staphylococcus*, comprising at least one hybridization probe as claimed in claim 8

and/or at least one hybridization probe comprising ~~at least 20 nucleotide motifs of the~~
nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.